

**STATE OF INDIANA**  
**DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT**  
**PUBLIC NOTICE NO. 20211130 – IN0020991 – D**  
**DATE OF NOTICE: NOVEMBER 30, 2021**  
**DATE RESPONSE DUE: DECEMBER 30, 2021**

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**The Office of Water Quality proposes the following NPDES DRAFT PERMIT:**

**MAJOR – MODIFICATION**

**PLYMOUTH (city) WWTP**, Permit No. IN0020991, MARSHALL COUNTY, 900 Oakhill Avenue, Plymouth, IN. This modification removes the effluent limitation for chloride, as well as the weekly and monthly monitoring requirements for chloride included in Part I.A.3 and Part I.A.4 of the permit. Permit Manager: Gabrielle Ghreichi, 317/234-1191, [gghreich@idem.in.gov](mailto:gghreich@idem.in.gov). Posted online at <https://www.in.gov/idem/public-notices/>.

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**PROCEDURES TO FILE A RESPONSE**

Draft can be viewed or copied (10¢ per page) at IDEM/OWQ NPDES PS, 100 North Senate Avenue, (Rm 1203) Indianapolis, IN, 46204 (east end elevators) from 9 – 4, Mon - Fri, (except state holidays). A copy of the Draft Permit is on file at the local County Health Department. Please tell others you think would be interested in this matter. For your rights & responsibilities see these sites: Public Notices: <https://www.in.gov/idem/public-notices/>; Citizen Guide: <https://www.in.gov/idem/resources/citizens-guide-to-idem/>. Please tell others whom you think would be interested in this matter.

**Response Comments:** The proposed decision to issue a permit is tentative. Interested persons are invited to submit written comments on the Draft permit. All comments must be postmarked no later than the Response Date noted to be considered in the decision to issue a Final permit. Deliver or mail all requests or comments to the attention of the Permit Writer at the above address, (mail code 65-42 PS).

**To Request a Public Hearing:**

Any person may request a Public Hearing. A written request must be submitted to the above address on or before the Response Date noted. The written request shall include: the name and address of the person making the request, the interest of the person making the request, persons represented by the person making the request, the reason for the request and the issues proposed for consideration at the Hearing. IDEM will determine whether to hold a Public Hearing based on the comments and the rationale for the request. Public Notice of such a Hearing will be published in at least one newspaper in the geographical area of the discharge and sent to anyone submitting written comments and/or making such request and whose name is on the mailing list at least 30 days prior to the Hearing.



# INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

*We Protect Hoosiers and Our Environment.*

100 N. Senate Avenue • Indianapolis, IN 46204  
(800) 451-6027 • (317) 232-8603 • [www.idem.IN.gov](http://www.idem.IN.gov)

Eric J. Holcomb  
Governor

Bruno Pigott  
Commissioner

November 30, 2021

## VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

The Honorable Mark Senter, Mayor  
City of Plymouth  
124 North Michigan Street  
P.O. Box 492  
Plymouth, Indiana 46563

Dear Mayor Senter:

Re: Draft Modification of NPDES Permit  
No. IN0020991 for the City of Plymouth  
Wastewater Treatment Plant  
Marshall County

Your request for permit modification, submitted October 18, 2021, has been reviewed and processed in accordance with rules adopted under 327 IAC 5. Enclosed is the draft modification of NPDES Permit No. IN0020991 which applies to the discharge from the City of Plymouth Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP). The enclosed Pages 5 through 9 of 54 are intended to replace the corresponding pages in the facility's current permit.

Pursuant to IC 13-15-5-1, IDEM will publish the draft permit document online at <https://www.in.gov/ide/public-notices/>. Additional information on public participation can be found in the "Citizens' Guide to IDEM", available at <https://www.in.gov/ide/resources/citizens-guide-to-idem/>. A 30-day comment period is available in order to solicit input from interested parties, including the general public.

Please review this document carefully and become familiar with the proposed terms and conditions. Comments concerning the draft permit should be submitted in accordance with the procedure outlined in the enclosed public notice form. If you have any questions concerning this modification, please contact Gabrielle Ghreichi at 317/234-1191 or at [gghreich@idem.IN.gov](mailto:gghreich@idem.IN.gov).

Sincerely,

Leigh Voss, Chief  
Municipal NPDES Permits Section  
Office of Water Quality

## Enclosures

cc: Larry Hatcher, Certified Operator and Pretreatment Coordinator  
Donnie Davidson, Plant Superintendent

STATE OF INDIANA  
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT  
AMENDED AUTHORIZATION TO DISCHARGE UNDER THE  
NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM

In compliance with the provisions of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, as amended, (33 U.S.C. 1251 et seq., the "Clean Water Act") or (CWA), and IDEMs authority under IC 13-5, the Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) is issuing this permit to the

**CITY OF PLYMOUTH**

hereinafter referred to as "the permittee." The permittee owns and/or operates the **City of Plymouth Wastewater Treatment Plant**, a major municipal wastewater treatment plant located at 900 Oakhill Avenue, Plymouth, Indiana, Marshall County. The permittee is hereby authorized to discharge from the outfalls identified in Part I of this permit to receiving waters named the Yellow River in accordance with the effluent limitations, monitoring requirements, and other conditions set forth in the permit. This permit may be revoked for the nonpayment of applicable fees in accordance with IC 13-18-20.

The permit, as issued on June 4, 2020 is hereby amended as contained herein. The amended provisions shall become effective on \_\_\_\_\_. All terms and conditions of the permit not modified at this time remain in effect. Further, any existing condition or term affected by the modifications will remain in effect until the modified provisions become effective.

This permit and authorization to discharge, as amended, shall expire at midnight, July 31, 2025. In order to receive authorization to discharge beyond the date of expiration, the permittee shall submit such information and forms as are required by the Indiana Department of Environmental Management no later than 180 days prior to the date of expiration.

Issued on \_\_\_\_\_ for the Indiana Department of Environmental Management.

Jerry Dittmer, Chief  
Permits Branch  
Office of Water Quality

(10%) of those samples may exceed two hundred thirty-five (235) cfu or mpn as a daily maximum. When calculating ten percent, the result must not be rounded up. In reporting for compliance purposes on the Discharge Monitoring Report (DMR) form, the permittee shall record the highest non-excluded value for the daily maximum.

## 2. Minimum Narrative Limitations

At all times the discharge from any and all point sources specified within this permit shall not cause receiving waters:

- a. including the mixing zone, to contain substances, materials, floating debris, oil, scum or other pollutants:
  - (1) that will settle to form putrescent or otherwise objectionable deposits;
  - (2) that are in amounts sufficient to be unsightly or deleterious;
  - (3) that produce color, visible oil sheen, odor, or other conditions in such degree as to create a nuisance;
  - (4) which are in amounts sufficient to be acutely toxic to, or to otherwise severely injure or kill aquatic life, other animals, plants, or humans;
  - (5) which are in concentrations or combinations that will cause or contribute to the growth of aquatic plants or algae to such a degree as to create a nuisance, be unsightly, or otherwise impair the designated uses.
- b. outside the mixing zone, to contain substances in concentrations which on the basis of available scientific data are believed to be sufficient to injure, be chronically toxic to, or be carcinogenic, mutagenic, or teratogenic to humans, animals, aquatic life, or plants.

## 3. Additional Monitoring Requirements

### a. Priority Pollutants Monitoring

The permittee shall conduct an annual inventory of priority pollutants (see 40 CFR 423, Appendix A) and shall identify and quantify additional organic compounds which occur in the influent, effluent, and sludge. The analytical report shall be sent to the Pretreatment Group. This report is due in December of each year. The inventory shall consist of:

#### (1) Sampling and Analysis of Influent and Effluent

Sampling shall be conducted on a day when industrial discharges are occurring at normal or maximum levels. The samples shall be 24-hour flow proportional composites, except for cyanide and volatile organics, which shall be taken by appropriate grab sampling techniques. Analysis for the U.S. EPA organic priority pollutants shall be

performed using U.S. EPA methods 624, 625 and 608 in 40 CFR 136, or other equivalent methods approved by U.S. EPA. Equivalent methods must be at least as sensitive and specific as methods 624, 625 and 608.

All samples must be collected, preserved and stored in accordance with 40 CFR 136, Appendix A. Samples for volatile organics must be analyzed within 14 days of collection. Samples for semivolatile organics, PCBs and pesticides must be extracted within 7 days of collection and analyzed within 40 days of extraction. For composite samples, the collection date shall be the date at the end of the daily collection period.

(2) Sampling and Analysis of Sludge

Sampling collection, storage, and analysis shall conform to the U.S. EPA recommended procedures equivalent to methods in accordance with 40 CFR 503. Special sampling and/or preservation techniques will be required for those pollutants which deteriorate rapidly. Sludge samples for volatile organics must be analyzed within 14 days of collection. Sludge samples for semivolatile organics, PCBs and pesticides must be extracted within 14 days of collection and analyzed within 40 days of extraction.

(3) Additional Pollutant Identification

In addition to the priority organic pollutants, a reasonable attempt shall be made to identify and quantify the ten most abundant constituents of each fraction (excluding priority pollutants and unsubstituted aliphatic compounds) shown to be present by peaks on the total ion plots (reconstructed gas chromatograms) more than ten times higher than the adjacent background noise. Identification shall be attempted through the use of U.S. EPA/NIH computerized library of mass spectra, with visual confirmation by an experienced analyst. Quantification may be based on an order of magnitude estimate based upon comparison with an internal standard.

The annual pretreatment program report required by Part III.A.7. of this permit, should identify the additional steps necessary to determine whether the pollutants that are present interfere, pass through, or otherwise violate 40 CFR 403.2. Upon such determination, the report must also identify the steps taken to develop and enforce local limitations on industrial discharges for those pollutants. This is a requirement of 40 CFR 403.5.

B. MONITORING AND REPORTING

1. Representative Sampling

Samples and measurements taken as required herein shall be representative of the volume and nature of the monitored discharge flow and shall be taken at times which reflect the full

range and concentration of effluent parameters normally expected to be present. Samples shall not be taken at times to avoid showing elevated levels of any parameters.

2. Data on Plant Operation

The raw influent and the wastewater from intermediate unit treatment processes, as well as the final effluent shall be sampled and analyzed for the pollutants and operational parameters specified by the applicable Monthly Report of Operation Form, as appropriate, in accordance with 327 IAC 5-2-13. Except where the permit specifically states otherwise, the sample frequency for the raw influent and intermediate unit treatment process shall be at a minimum the same frequency as that for the final effluent. The measurement frequencies specified in each of the tables in Part I.A. are the minimum frequencies required by this permit.

3. Reporting per Monitoring Period

The permittee shall submit accurate monitoring reports to the Indiana Department of Environmental Management containing results obtained during each monitoring period and shall be submitted no later than the 28th day of the month following each completed monitoring period. Each monitoring period report shall be submitted no less than annually and no more than monthly, as per parameter measurement frequency listed. These reports shall include, but not necessarily be limited to, the Discharge Monitoring Report (DMR) and the Monthly Report of Operation (MRO). **Permittees with combined sewer overflow discharges must also submit the CSO Monthly Report of Operation to IDEM by the 28<sup>th</sup> day of the month following each completed monitoring period.** All reports shall be submitted electronically by using the NetDMR application, upon registration, receipt of the NetDMR Subscriber Agreement, and IDEM approval of the proposed NetDMR Signatory. Access the NetDMR website (for initial registration and DMR/MMR submittal) via CDX at: <https://cdx.epa.gov/>. The Regional Administrator may request the permittee to submit monitoring reports to the Environmental Protection Agency if it is deemed necessary to assure compliance with the permit.

A calendar week will begin on Sunday and end on Saturday. Partial weeks consisting of four or more days at the end of any month will include the remaining days of the week, which occur in the following month in order to calculate a consecutive seven-day average. This value will be reported as a weekly average or seven-day average on the MRO for the month containing the partial week of four or more days. Partial calendar weeks consisting of less than four days at the end of any month will be carried forward to the succeeding month and reported as a weekly average or a seven-day average for the calendar week that ends with the first Saturday of that month.

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**National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System  
Fact Sheet for the City of Plymouth  
Wastewater Treatment Plant  
Draft: November 10, 2021  
Final: TBD**

**Indiana Department of Environmental Management**

100 North Senate Avenue  
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204  
(317) 232-8603  
Toll Free (800) 451-6027  
[www.idem.IN.gov](http://www.idem.IN.gov)

<b>Permittee:</b>	City of Plymouth The Honorable Mark Senter, Mayor 124 North Michigan Street P.O. Box 492 Plymouth, Indiana 46563 <a href="mailto:mayor@plymouthin.com">mayor@plymouthin.com</a> ; 574/936-6717
<b>Existing Permit Information:</b>	Permit Number: IN0020991 Expiration Date: July 31, 2020
<b>Facility Contact:</b>	Donnie Davidson, Utility Superintendent <a href="mailto:wastewater@plymouthin.com">wastewater@plymouthin.com</a> ; 574/936-3017
<b>Facility Location:</b>	900 Oakhill Avenue Plymouth, Indiana 46563 Marshall County
<b>Receiving Stream:</b>	Yellow River to the Kankakee River
<b>GLI/Non-GLI:</b>	Non-GLI
<b>Proposed Permit Action:</b>	Modification
<b>Date Application Received:</b>	October 18, 2021
<b>Facility Category</b>	NPDES Major/Minor Municipal
<b>Permit Writer:</b>	Gabrielle Ghreichi, Senior Environmental Manager <a href="mailto:gghreich@idem.in.gov">gghreich@idem.in.gov</a> ; 317/234-1191

Outfall Location

Latitude: 41° 20' 06" N  
Longitude: 86° 19' 12" W

NPDES Permit No. IN0020991

**Background**

This is the modification of the NPDES permit for the City of Plymouth Wastewater Treatment Plant. The facility's current permit was effective on August 1, 2020 and has an expiration date of July 31, 2025. A request for permit modification was received from the permittee on October 18, 2021. The permittee requests a permit modification to remove the effluent limitation for chloride, as well as the weekly and monthly monitoring requirements for chloride included in Part I.A.3 and Part I.A.4 of the permit.

As stated within the modification request, the City of Plymouth no longer accepts industrial wastewater from two major facilities- Bay Valley Foods and Delmonte. These two industries closed down during 2017-2018. Due to the elimination of these two industrial sources, the permittee anticipated a reduction in the amount of chloride in both the influent and effluent. Therefore, at the request of the permittee, a Reasonable Potential to Exceed (RPE) analysis was conducted on September 23, 2021 (WLA002591) for chloride. The most recent 12-month's worth of weekly chloride data was utilized for this analysis. The RPE analysis demonstrated that there is no longer a RPE to exceed the water quality criterion for chloride in the City of Plymouth's effluent. Therefore, this permit modification will remove the effluent limitation for chloride, as well as any other monitoring or reporting requirements related to chloride. However, since the permittee is a Delegated pretreatment community, the permittee must still carry out the annual inventory of priority pollutants (please reference Part 1.A.3 of the modified permit pages for this requirement).

**Modification**

The following changes have been made for the modification of the NPDES permit:

Page 1 of 54	This page has been modified to reflect the modification effective date for the permit.
Pages 5 through 7 of 54	These pages have been modified to remove the effluent limitation for chloride as well as all influent and effluent monitoring requirements for chloride (Tables 3 and 4).
Pages 7 through 9 of 54	These pages have been modified to remove specific language regarding metals reporting on the appropriate MRO form in Part I.B.3 of the permit. These pages have also been modified to facilitate spacing and page number formatting in the modified permit.

**Expiration Date**

The expiration date of the permit has not changed. The permit, as modified, will expire at midnight on July 31, 2025.